

What is claimed is:

1. A function expanding device comprising:

a first connection part connectable to a unit which expands a function

5 ~~Sub A1~~ of electronic hardware;

a second connection part connectable to the electronic hardware; and

an operation part for the unit.

2. A function expanding device according to claim 1, further comprising

10 ~~Sub B1~~ a control part which may control the unit independent of the electronic hardware.

3. A function expanding device according to claim 1, wherein said

operation part may power on at least part of the electronic hardware.

15 4. A function expanding device according to claim 2, wherein said

control part may transmit operational information of the operation part to the electronic hardware.

~~Sub A2~~ 5. A function expanding device according to claim 1, wherein said

20 second connection part is connectable to a port replicator, and connectable to the electronic hardware via the port replicator.

6. A function expanding device according to claim 1, wherein said

~~Sub B~~ second connection part has a cable.

7. A function expanding device according to claim 1, further comprising

a display part which displays a status of the unit.

8. A function expanding device according to claim 1, wherein the unit is selected from a group including a music CD drive, a CD-ROM drive, a DVD-ROM drive, and an LS-120 drive, and said first connection part has a bay structure connectable compatibly to either drive in the group.

9. A function expanding device according to claim 1, wherein said second connector has an IDE interface and a music interface.

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10. A port replicator connectable to a function expanding device which includes a first connection part connectable to a unit which expands a function of electronic hardware, a second connection part connectable to the electronic hardware, and an operation part of the unit, said port replicator comprising:

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a third connection part connectable to the second connection part of the function expanding device; and

a fourth connection part connectable to the electronic hardware.

11. A function expanding device comprising:

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a first connection part connectable selectively to a plurality of units each of which expands a function of electronic hardware;

a second connection part connectable to the electronic hardware; and

a third connection part connectable to the electronic hardware.

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12. A function expanding device according to claim 11, wherein said second and third connection parts are used to connect to the electronic hardware the

unit connectable to the first connection part, but connect different units to the electronic hardware.

13. A function expanding device according to claim 11, wherein said second connection part is used to connect to the electronic hardware at least one of said plurality of units connectable to the first connection part, and

wherein said third connection part is used to connect to the electronic hardware at least one of the units connectable to the first connection part, which unit is different from the unit connectable by the second connection part.

14. A function expanding device comprising:
a first connection part connectable to a unit that expands electronic hardware;

a second connection part connectable to the electronic hardware; and
a third connection part connectable to the electronic hardware.